# Directed Writing Response

This document focuses on Paper 1 – Reading and precisely on Question 1a, the Directed writing task. You are given a piece of writing and asked to rewrite it in another for a different purpose, audience, and in another text type (genre).

This part of the exam aims to assess your ability to:

- Read and demonstrate an understanding of a wide variety of texts
- Write effectively, accurately, and appropriately for a range of audiences and purposes

The reading texts have come from a wide range of text types.
Examples of repurposing of the texts in this document are from the following:

- Report Writing
- Dairy Entry
- Formal Letter
- Advertisement
- Podcast
- News report writing
- Blog post
- Speech
- Travel writing review

You will be given the opportunity to:

1. Read from a wide range of texts.
2. Understand the **PAF TR** for the given task.
3. See examples of model answers of the new/ repurposed texts
4. Examine the success criteria set for the directed writing response.

**Top Tips**

- As you read the original texts, note any linguistical and structural features.
- Highlight words and phrases that you would not normally use in your writing.
- Have a go and practice the tasks and create your own texts. Compare them to the given model answers.

**“The best way to learn is by doing." - Richard Branson**

**Question 1a – Directed Writing Response Questions and Answers**

**May/June 2022**

1. **Advertisement writing**

**You have been asked to write an advertisement which will be published in a brochure promoting tourism in the Arctic. Write the text for the advertisement. Use 150–200 words.**

**Top tip**

Before reading the text and attempting the task, understand the Purpose, Audience, Form(format), Tone, & Register – **PAF TR**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this advertisement is to promote tourism in the Arctic and encourage potential tourists to visit this unique and pristine destination.

**Audience:** The target audience for this advertisement could be adventure-seeking travelers, nature enthusiasts, and those interested in exploring remote and untouched wilderness areas. The advertisement may also target tourists interested in experiencing the natural beauty and wildlife of the Arctic, as well as those looking for unique and off-the-beaten-path travel destinations.

**Format:** The advertisement is intended to be published in a brochure promoting tourism in the Arctic, and the text should be engaging, concise, and informative to capture the reader's attention.

**Tone:** The tone of the advertisement should be enticing, adventurous, and informative. It should evoke a sense of wonder and excitement about the natural beauty and unique experiences the Arctic offers.

**Register:** The register of the advertisement should be formal, professional, and persuasive. It should use appropriate language and tone to convince potential tourists to consider the Arctic as a travel destination.

Read the following text, which is an extract from an academic book about the people and culture of a region in the Arctic known as the 'High North'.

**Prologue**

People in the High North

Arne O. Holm, Bode Graduate School of Business

From my living-room window in Bode - every day, if I'm not traveling - I can watch tourists from around the world exploring my northern Norwegian coastal town. Day after day, they wander past with full bellies after enjoying the sumptuous lunch on the Hurtigruten coastal steamer. It's one of many cruise and freight ships docked not a ten-minute walk from my home; the Hurtigruten travels through Bode on its journey from the southwest city of Bergen to the north-easterly Kirkenes, close to the Russian border.

In their eagerness to set foot on solid ground after a few turbulent hours on the open seas, the passengers are unsuspectingly hit by the Arctic chill and ice-cold winds threatening to tear apart their expensive handbags and coats. This arrival is not unusual for tourists visiting our region; the land invites experiences both brutally hostile and intensely beautiful.
The visitors negotiate their footing and stride during brief windows of reprieve from the weather, feeling a certain sense of robust satisfaction from mastering the harsh conditions in northern Norway's second largest city. Marching forward with purpose, they wander toward the city center in search of shelter, but their hopes will be dashed. On days like this, in a city sitting above the Arctic Circle, not even the rows of homes, shops, and offices can offer refuge.

The wind keeps the tourists' eyes firmly affixed on the asphalt like some kind of cruel joke by the weather gods; the very nature they have come so far to experience keeps them from seeing their beautiful surroundings. Or perhaps it is that winter storms come at a time of the year in the North when the light is at its weakest.
Many who visit my city share this experience. But unlike the hungry industrial investors looking for petroleum or minerals, tourists are more unassuming about how little they know about the people who call this place home, this place called the "High North."

Eight countries border the Arctic Ocean in a geopolitical area that has attracted formidable international attention over the past decade. Eight countries share the High North region and, with it, share a climatic fate.

At first, this region was symbolic of full-alert national security, East meets West.
During the Cold War, the High North was ruled by diplomatic agreements and military truces. Now, economic interests and energy security policies, especially those of Norway, Russia, and Canada, rule this resource-rich region.

These new negotiations and processes are different from the Cold War, but no less complex. Where previous military alliances focused on the finer points of defense, today's investment

strategies are based on international capital. This draws new nations into the developments, and the distance between those who extract the resources and those who live where resources will be extracted increases.

Let it be known to the readers of this book: the resources of the North are and abundant.

In a resource-starved world, the Northern seas are the world's breadbasket. The seafood industry is economically sustainable, the result of circumspect and diligent international management. The energy industry provides a potential solution to the puzzle of depleting global hydrocarbon resources. The mineral industry has grown from fueling crude manufacturing to fueling our cell phones and tablets.

These resources are harvested far away from the fuel tanks and dinner tables where they eventually end up.

Adding more complexity to this scenario, Arctic Ocean shipping traffic is increasing, the Northern aerospace technology industry is growing, tourism is becoming a realistic income source, and the crisis-preparedness industry - though still nascent - is promising.

Not only will most of these resources be transported and used somewhere else, but they are available in other places in the world. And thus we come closer to the core of this anthology. The High North is an international project, a diverse organization of people with shared common interests and geography. Without knowledge of these people - their history, livelihoods, politics and painstakingly built knowledge based institutions the high north could go horribly wrong.

This collection explores those who live in this region and the potential for High North as a gateway toward new understandings, as a declaration of solidarity across national boundaries. But as in the rest of the world, the High North, despite its economic importance, has a limited common public sphere.

It's proof of how little we know about each other and how others know even less about us.

**Model Answer**

Explore the High North - A Land of Harsh Beauty and Warm Hospitality!

Welcome to the Arctic, a region of unparalleled natural wonders and cultural richness. Embark on a journey to experience the raw beauty of the northern Norwegian coastal town of Bode, where the icy winds and Arctic chill test your mettle. Marvel at the majestic Hurtigruten coastal steamer as it docks just minutes away from your cozy home.

Discover a world of abundant resources, from the sustainable seafood industry to the energy solutions that power our modern world. Immerse yourself in the history, livelihoods, and

politics of the people who call this place home. Engage with the diverse communities of the High North, from the indigenous peoples to the modern aerospace technology industry.

Indulge in thrilling adventures like Arctic Ocean shipping, crisis-preparedness training, and exploring the mineral industry that fuels our modern gadgets. Experience the limited common public sphere of the High North and foster solidarity across national boundaries.

Come, be enchanted by the High North - an international project where nature's raw beauty meets warm hospitality, and new understandings await. Plan your Arctic adventure today!

**Success criteria**

**Captivating and Engaging Language**: The advertisement should use descriptive and captivating language to create a sense of excitement and intrigue about the High North, encouraging readers to want to explore the region further.

**Highlighting Unique Selling Points**: The advertisement should highlight the unique selling points of the Arctic, such as its natural beauty, abundant resources, diverse cultures, and thrilling adventures, to differentiate it from other tourist destinations.

**Concise and Clear Messaging**: The advertisement should convey its message clearly and concisely within the word limit of 150-200 words, providing enough information to pique readers' interest without overwhelming them with excessive details.

**Call-to-Action**: The advertisement should include a clear call-to-action, urging readers to take action, such as planning their Arctic adventure or booking a tour, to prompt a response and conversion.

**Positive Tone**: The advertisement should convey a positive and inviting tone, evoking a sense of warmth, hospitality, and excitement about the High North, enticing readers to want to visit and explore the region.

**Accuracy and Authenticity**: The advertisement should provide accurate and authentic information about the High North, avoiding exaggerated or misleading claims, to build trust with potential tourists.

**Target Audience Relevance**: The advertisement should be tailored to the target audience of the brochure or publication, considering their interests, preferences, and motivations for traveling, to effectively resonate with them and encourage them to take action.

**Overall Impact**: The advertisement should leave a lasting impact on readers, making them feel excited, intrigued, and motivated to visit the Arctic, and ultimately driving tourism bookings or inquiries.

**October/November 2022**

## 2. Report Writing

**Imagine you work for the Health and Safety Department of the ISBT. You write reports, making recommendations about how to improve the bus terminal. Write the text for your report. Use 150–200 words.**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose**: The purpose of the report is to provide an assessment of the health and safety conditions at the ISBT bus terminal based on the travelogue by Pankaj Mishra, and make recommendations for improvements.

**Audience**: The audience for the report is the Health and Safety Department of the ISBT, who are responsible for ensuring the well-being of passengers, staff, and visitors at the bus terminal.

**Format**: The report should follow a standard report format, including headings and subheadings for each section, and be written in a clear and concise manner.

**Tone:** The tone of the report should be professional and objective, focusing on factual information and evidence-based recommendations.

**Register:** The register of the report should be formal, using appropriate technical terms related to health and safety, and avoiding colloquial or informal language

Read the following text, which is an **extract from a travelogue** by the writer Pankaj Mishra, about his travel experiences in some small towns in India in 1995.

'VERY SENIOR OFFICER and very honest,' Mr Chugh was saying, now for the fourth time, 'but his wife won't let him be. She wants him to make money. She's mad, I tell you, and she'll drive my brother mad.'

A short, stoutish, balding man in his early fifties, he spoke as though he was an acquaintance. In fact, I had met him barely ten minutes ago on platform No. 36, where he was waiting, like me, for the late-night bus to Muzaffarnagar. There, amidst the general wretchedness of Delhi's Inter State Bus Terminal (ISBT)– the thick fog of low-octane diesel smoke, the stench from open, unflushed toilets, the roar of bus engines, the countless cassette players blaring simultaneously, the muddy floor, the swirling mobs of bewildered travellers, the thuggish touts for private buses, the aggressive child-beggars, the bawling babies– amidst such oppressive disorder, the anxiety-ridden face of Mr Chugh seemed like a mirror image of my own: a fellow sufferer, I thought, and immediately felt a bond of empathy between us.

‘Do you know anything about this Muzaffarnagar bus?’ He had spoken to me first in English, in a thin, quavering, unnaturally high-pitched voice. Subsequently, he spoke only in Hindi. But the initial use of English was important. It was the sole means open to Mr Chugh of distinguishing himself from the squalor of his surroundings; and it was a coded overture to another presumed English-speaker, an invitation to privileged distress.

I replied that the bus hadn’t arrived and that this was all I knew.

‘Have you asked the Roadways office?’

I hadn’t. I wasn’t even aware of its existence.

‘Let’s go. Let’s see what they’re up to.’

His company gave me the strength to walk up two ramps to the UP Roadways office, and enquire about the delayed bus. Then, on being told about its uncertain status, we wandered around the huge waiting hall on the first floor, trading tales of public-sector ineptitude– no better basis for such impromptu acquaintanceships– before finding a small partitioned-off waiting room in a corner. There, shielded from the rest of ISBT by its cracked and grimy glass wall, through which the dimly lit waiting hall appeared subaqueous and the bales of humans asprawl on the floor like so much marine detritus, under a fan which, miraculously, in the midst of such complete breakdown, still worked, we seated ourselves, and Mr Chugh got started on topics only a severely undermined traveller would take up.

An intense excitement animated his sweat-drenched face; his voice cackled with nervous energy; he was in a hurry to confide in me as much as he could. And, less than 15 minutes after we had met, I was taken on a whirlwind tour of Mr Chugh’s life.

I learnt, for instance, that he lived in Muzaffarnagar; that he was returning from Jaipur where his brother lived with his mad wife; that he himself had been a doctor in Toronto. But– and here the story turned strange– he was not paid his salary for ten years. So, he came back to India and started working as a consultant to an engineering firm. But he was disappointed by India. His wife was like his mad sister-in-law; she wanted him to make money. He was now thinking of going back to Toronto. They were now willing to pay his salary.

At any other time, Mr Chugh’s story would have seemed slightly garbled, hiding some unpleasant reality (for instance, the bit about his withheld salary: was it because of some wrongdoing on his part?). In its present setting, however, part as though of the disorderly world around us, it appeared plausible. And the mood was infectious. Mr Chugh asked me no questions about myself; but I had had to stop myself twice from blurting out a few family secrets of my own.

Soon, Mr Chugh began to repeat himself: not just the themes, but also the exact sentences he had used earlier. It looked as if he was working himself into a state. The thought that he might

any moment go completely berserk crossed my mind. It was disturbing: sitting next to him, staring into his thick-jowled, ruddy-cheeked face, and slowly realizing that such delirium could be less aberrant than what a sweltering May night at ISBT might make it seem, that it might have its sources in the peculiar circumstances of Mr Chugh's life.

**Model Answer**

Report on Improving Health and Safety at ISBT Bus Terminal

Introduction:

The ISBT bus terminal in Delhi has significant health and safety issues, as observed during a recent visit on a late-night bus trip. Conditions such as diesel smoke, unflushed toilets, muddy floors, aggressive touts, and overcrowded waiting areas create a chaotic and unpleasant environment for travellers while posing health and safety risks. Mr. Chugh's experiences highlighted the urgent need to address these concerns.

Observations:

The terminal lacks proper ventilation, resulting in diesel smoke accumulation, posing a risk to respiratory health. Unflushed toilets emit foul odors and increase the risk of disease transmission. Muddy floors are slippery and pose a risk of slips and falls, especially during monsoons. Aggressive touts create insecurity and harassment for travellers. The overcrowded waiting hall is a breeding ground for potential accidents.

Recommendations:

1. Improve ventilation: Install exhaust systems and air purifiers to reduce diesel smoke and improve air quality.
2. Maintain clean toilets: Regularly clean and maintain toilets, including proper flushing and provision of handwashing facilities.
3. Ensure floor safety: Regularly clean and mop floors, especially during monsoons, and provide warning signs in slippery areas.
4. Control touts: Implement strict regulations to control the aggressive behaviour of touts and protect travellers from harassment.
5. Enhance crowd management: Introduce effective crowd management measures, including designated waiting areas and queues.
6. Increase security measures: Deploy additional security personnel and install CCTV cameras to ensure traveller safety and prevent security breaches.

Conclusion:
The ISBT bus terminal requires urgent attention to improve health and safety measures. Implementation of the recommended measures will create a safer and more pleasant

experience for travellers. The Health and Safety Department of ISBT should take immediate action and collaborate with relevant stakeholders to address these issues and ensure the well-being of all travellers.

**Success Criteria for Report Writing – Conventions**

**Title:** Include a title that accurately reflects the content of the report. It should be clear, concise, and placed at the beginning of the report.

**Introduction**: Provide an introduction that outlines the purpose and scope of the report and provides some context for the topic being discussed. It should be brief and engaging and capture the reader's attention.

**Executive Summary**: Include an executive summary at the beginning of the report, which provides a brief overview of the main findings and recommendations of the report. It should be concise and highlight the key points of the report.

**Body**: The body of the report should be well-organized and divided into sections or chapters, each addressing a specific topic or aspect of the report. Use headings and subheadings to clearly indicate the structure and flow of the report.

**Recommendations**: Provide specific and actionable recommendations based on the findings of the report. These should be practical and feasible, and clearly stated.

**Conclusion**: Summarize the main findings and recommendations of the report clearly and concisely. Avoid introducing new information in conclusion, and emphasize the main points made in the report.

**March 2022**

## 3. Diary Entry

**Imagine you are Michelle's great-aunt Robbie. You write a diary entry recording your thoughts and feelings after one of Michelle's weekly piano lessons. Write the text for your diary entry. Use 150–200 words.**

**Top tip**

Before reading the text and attempting the task, understand the Purpose, Audience, Form(format), Tone, & Register – **PAF TR**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose**: Reflecting on Michelle's weekly piano lesson from the perspective of her great-aunt Robbie.

**Audience**: Private diary entry, intended for personal reflection and self-expression.

**Format:** Written in the form of a diary entry, with a date and first-person point of view.

**Tone:** Informal, reflective, and intimate, as it is a personal diary entry.

**Register**: Conversational, using everyday language and informal expressions.

Read the following text, which is an extract from Michelle Obama's autobiography *Becoming*

I was about four when I decided I wanted to learn piano. Craig, who was in the first grade, was already making trips downstairs for weekly lessons on Robbie's upright and returning relatively unscathed. I figured I was ready. I was pretty convinced I already had learned piano, in fact, through straight-up osmosis – all those hours spent listening to other kids fumbling through their songs. The music was already in my head. I just wanted to go downstairs and demonstrate to my exacting great-aunt what a gifted girl I was, how it would take no effort at all for me to become her star student.

Robbie's piano sat in a small square room at the rear of the house, close to a window that overlooked the backyard. She kept a potted plant in one corner and a folding table where students could fill out music work sheets in the other. During lessons, she sat straight spined in an upholstered high-back armchair, tapping out the beat with one finger, her head cocked as she listened keenly for each mistake.Was I afraid of Robbie? Not exactly, but there was a scariness to her; she represented a rigid kind of authority

I hadn't yet encountered elsewhere. She demanded excellence from every kid who sat on her piano bench. I saw her as someone to win over, or maybe to somehow conquer. With her, it always felt like there was something to prove.

At my first lesson, my legs dangled from the piano bench, too short to reach the floor. Robbie gave me my own elementary music workbook, which I was thrilled about, and showed me how to position my hands properly over the keys.

'All right, pay attention,' she said, scolding me before we'd even begun. 'Find middle C.'

When you're little, a piano can look like it has a thousand keys. You're staring at an expanse of black and white that stretches farther than two small arms can reach. Middle C, I soon learned, was the anchoring point. It was the territorial line between where the right hand and the left hand traveled, between the treble and the bass clefs. If you could lay your thumb on middle C, everything else automatically fell into place. The keys on Robbie's piano had a subtle unevenness of color and shape, places where bits of the ivory had broken off over time, leaving them looking like a set of bad teeth. Helpfully, the middle C key had a full corner missing, a wedge about the size of my fingernail, which got me centred every time.

It turned out I liked the piano. Sitting at it felt natural, like something I was meant to do. My family was loaded with musicians and music lovers, especially on my mother's side. I had an uncle who played in a professional band. Several of my aunts sang in church choirs. I had Robbie, who in addition to her choir and lessons directed something called the Operetta Workshop, a shoestring musical theater program for kids, which Craig 35 and I attended every Saturday morning in the basement of her church. The musical center of my family, though, was my grandfather Shields, the carpenter, who was also Robbie's younger brother. He was a carefree, round-bellied man with an infectious laugh and a scraggly salt-and-pepper beard. When I was younger, he'd lived on the West Side of the city and Craig and I had referred to him as Westside. But he moved into our neighborhood the same year I started taking piano lessons, and we'd duly rechristened him Southside.

**Model Answer**

Dear Diary,

I can't help but smile as I think about Michelle's piano lesson today. She looked absolutely adorable with her feet dangling from the piano bench, eager to learn. I was thrilled to give her, my great-niece, her own set of music books, and her eyes lit up with excitement.

Michelle was undeterred despite the old rusty piano in my small square room. She confidently approached the keys, not letting the imperfections of the instrument faze her. She tackled each note with determination and a keen ear for detail.

I challenged her to find middle C, and she rose to the occasion with gusto. Even with the subtle unevenness of the keys and the missing corner on the middle C key, Michelle was undeterred. She quickly grasped the concept of middle C as the anchoring point for the right and left hands, and her fingers danced effortlessly across the keyboard.

As I watched her play, I felt a surge of pride. Michelle's passion for music and her natural talent are evident in every note she plays. I'm honored to be her piano teacher and witness her growth and progress.

Until our next lesson.

**Success Criteria for Dairy Entry**

**Date and time**: Start each entry with the date and, if applicable, the time. This establishes the chronological order of events and provides context for the reader.

**First-person point of view**: Write in the first person, using "I" or "me" to convey the perspective of the writer. This makes the entry personal and reflective of the character or person writing the diary.

**Informal language**: Use conversational and informal language, as diaries are typically written in a casual and unstructured manner. Avoid overly formal or academic language.

**Stream of consciousness**: Capture the writer's thoughts and emotions flow, reflecting their spontaneous reactions and reflections on events or experiences.

**Authentic voice**: Write in a voice that is consistent with the character or person writing the diary. Consider their age, background, personality, and perspective in shaping the tone and style of the entry.

**Emotional tone**: Convey the writer's emotions and feelings about events, people, or situations. Use descriptive language to express their joy, sadness, excitement, or other emotions.

**Personal reflection**: Include the writer's personal reflections, thoughts, and insights about their experiences. This can provide depth and introspection to the entry.

**Detail and sensory imagery**: Use descriptive details and sensory imagery to create a vivid picture of the setting, characters, and events. This helps immerse the reader in the experience.

**Organization:** Use paragraphs or spacing to separate different thoughts or ideas. This helps organize the entry and make it easy to read.

Revision and editing: Review and revise your writing for clarity, coherence, and effectiveness. Check for grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors to ensure a polished and professional entry.

May/June 2022

## 4. Formal letter – to a newspaper

**You decide to write a letter to the newspaper in response to the article, expressing your opinions about the issues it raises. Use 150 to 200 words**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the letter is to express the writer's opinions about the issues raised in an article published in the newspaper. The writer may want to share their perspective, offer insights, or provide feedback on the article.

**Audience**: The audience of the letter is the newspaper's readership, including the general public and potentially the author and editors of the article. The writer may assume that the readers are interested in the topic and have a basic understanding of the issues discussed in the article.

**Format:** The letter should follow a formal letter format, including a salutation, introduction, body, and conclusion. It should be concise and well-structured, with a word count of 150 to 200 words as specified.

**Tone:** The tone of the letter should be respectful and professional, while also conveying the writer's opinions and emotions about the issues discussed in the article. The writer may use persuasive language to present their arguments effectively.

**Register**: The register of the letter should be formal and appropriate for a newspaper publication. The writer should use standard English and avoid slang, jargon, or overly technical language. The level of formality should be in line with the tone of the newspaper and the topic of the article.

Read the following text, which is an extract from an article about child prodigies, published in The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper.

**46 hours a week of practice: When is enough, enough for prodigy children?**

The golfer Sahara Hillman-Varma goes for a jog most mornings before school then practises golf for two or three hours every afternoon.

The 12-year-old is an elite junior golfer aiming for a successful, and potentially lucrative, career. She juggles golf with adjusting to Year 7 with its strict expectations for homework, plus weekly classes in karate and Indian dance.

"It's a lot harder now than in primary school. Back then, I would manage by doing all my homework at night but now, if I don't finish, I have to do it in the morning," she said.

Many families are familiar with the juggle of hobbies, school work, family time and free play. But for prodigies and gifted children, this can involve hours and hours of training and competition or performance. When is enough, enough?

Associate professor Jae Jung, in the school of education at the University of NSW, is reluctant to suggest rigid time limits.

“Generally speaking, if a child has an interest and demonstrates ability in a particular area, he or she should be able to devote as much time as he or she wishes to that area,” Dr Jung said. “The important thing is the activities, the work, is self-directed and self-motivated. If that’s the case, parents should be supportive and doing their best to help.”

Sahara's mother, Carin Hillman, won't sacrifice her daughter's schooling for sport. “If she’s too tired, we’d pull back - her education is extremely important,” Ms Hillman, said. “You have to have a fall-back career - she can’t count on this one thing. She needs to program her golf around her school work and make it all gel.”

**The entrepreneur**

Nik Robinson from Rozelle had to found a business to support his son Harry’s passion for the environment and desire to tackle the problem of plastic pollution.

Inspired by what he was learning at school and watching David Attenborough wildlife documentaries at home, Harry, 8, spent months badgering his parents about what they could do to help.

“It was ruining the environment and we *had* to do something,” Harry said. “It made me feel sad because I didn’t want that to happen. I really love animals.”

Harry and his dad have started a business called Good Citizens, which turns one 600ml plastic beverage bottle into a pair of sunglasses and partners with an environmental organisation to remove additional plastic waste from the ocean.

Mr Robinson is working on the business as his day job but Harry is highly involved. The mini-entrepreneur has a business meeting with his dad for half an hour every night to get an update on the company and make key decisions. He devotes several hours to it on the weekend, as well as spending at least an hour a week collecting plastic bottles from harbours and beaches.

“He honestly believes it’s his business and he’s the CEO,” Mr Robinson said. “I have to remind him that actually Dad does do a lot too.”

Mr Robinson said Harry is never forced to work on the business but he is happy to let him spend as much time as he wants on it, especially since it’s one-on-one time with a parent without screens. Mum Jocelyne Simpson takes Harry and his younger brother Archie to soccer training and games and makes Harry study for Naplan.

**The singer**

Keeping up with the demands of school was a challenge for singer Leo Abisaab when he missed four weeks of Year 10 to compete on *The Voice* last year.

''I support him with his singing fully, but I was concerned, for me the more important thing is education,” said his mother, Helen Abisaab.

The 16-year-old practises for up to an hour a day along with weekly out-of-school singing lessons.

“I try to do as much music practice as I can but not tire myself out,” Leo said. “I don’t think music gets in the way of school I always try and keep a healthy balance between the two.”

**The pianist**

Agnes He recently realised she might have a second musical prodigy on her hands.

Her daughter Isabella Lu, 9, is a pianist who recently became the youngest musician to headline a performance at the Sydney Opera House.

Isabella, who is in Year 4, practises for about six-and-a-half hours a day on school days and has a strict time management regime.

Now Mrs He has discovered that Isabella's younger sister, age 4, also has a gift for piano that the family will do their best to nurture.

"She started very early as since she was a baby she had to listen to her sister playing the piano and started herself before the age of 3," Mrs He said.

Dr Jung said parents had a responsibility to help all children - whether gifted or not - develop their capabilities and talents. But he said parents should only do what was possible given the time and cost restraints and the needs of other family members.

**Model Answer**

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest the article "46 hours a week of practice: When is enough, enough for prodigy children?" in your newspaper. As a concerned parent and advocate for child development, I have mixed feelings about the issue.

On the one hand, it's commendable to see young children like Sahara, Harry, Leo, and Isabella pursuing their passions with dedication and talent. However, the question of when enough is enough is a valid concern. While it's important to support and nurture the abilities of gifted children, we must also prioritize their overall well-being, including their physical and mental health, education, and social development.

As Associate Professor Jae Jung rightly points out, self-directed and self-motivated activities should be encouraged within reasonable limits. Parents should balance supporting their children's talents and ensuring they have a well-rounded upbringing that includes adequate time for school, family, free play, and rest.

It's crucial for parents to remember that prodigy children also need to have a fallback career and not solely rely on their talents for their future. It's our responsibility to help all children, gifted or not, develop their capabilities while considering the entire family's needs.

In conclusion, while it's important to recognize and support the talents of prodigy children, it's equally important to ensure that excessive training schedules do not compromise their overall well-being. Let's strive to strike a balance between nurturing their talents and providing them with a well-rounded childhood.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

**Success criteria**

**Addressing the main topic**: The letter should discuss the issue of prodigy children and their practice hours, as mentioned in the article.

**Coherent and organized structure**: The letter should have a clear introduction, body, and conclusion, with each paragraph focusing on a specific point.

**Clear and concise language:** The letter should use simple and straightforward language to convey the message effectively.

**Supportive evidence**: The letter should provide evidence from the article to support the arguments or points being made.

**Balanced perspective**: The letter should present a balanced perspective on the issue, acknowledging both the benefits and potential drawbacks of prodigy children's practice hours.

Appropriate tone: The letter should maintain a respectful and professional tone throughout.

**Proper format:** The letter should follow the standard format of a newspaper letter, including a salutation, introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion.

**Correct grammar and punctuation:** To ensure clarity and professionalism, the letter should be free from grammatical and punctuation errors.

**Overall effectiveness**: The letter should effectively convey the writer's thoughts and perspective on the topic, and leave a lasting impact on the reader.

**October/November 2021**

5. **Formal Letter**

**You decide to write a letter to the French President about the issues raised in the news report. Use 150–200 words.**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose**: The purpose of the letter is to express the writer's opinions about the issues raised in an article published in the newspaper. The writer may want to share their perspective, offer insights, or provide feedback on the article.

**Audience:** The audience of the letter is the newspaper's readership, including the general public and potentially the author and editors of the article. The writer may assume that the readers are interested in the topic and understand the issues discussed in the article.

**Format:** The letter should follow a formal letter format, including a salutation, introduction, body, and conclusion. It should be concise and well-structured, with a word count of 150 to 200 words as specified.

**Tone:** The tone of the letter should be respectful and professional, while also conveying the writer's opinions and emotions about the issues discussed in the article. The writer may use persuasive language to present their arguments effectively.

**Register**: The register of the letter should be formal and appropriate for a newspaper publication. The writer should use standard English and avoid slang, jargon, or overly technical language. The level of formality should be in line with the newspaper's tone and the article's topic.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the letter is to express concerns about the fires mentioned in the news report and urge the French President to take action to address the issue.

**Audience:** The audience is the French President, who holds the power to enact change and address the concerns raised in the letter.

**Format:** The format of the letter will be a formal letter, with a clear introduction, body paragraphs to elaborate on the issues, and a conclusion to summarize the main points.

**Tone:** The tone of the letter should be respectful and persuasive, urging the President to take action while maintaining a professional and diplomatic tone.

**Register:** The register should be formal and appropriate for addressing the President of a country, using proper titles and respectful language.

Read the following text, which is a news report about two large fires, one in Paris and one in South America. The report was published on an Australian news website.

**When a fire destroyed the Notre-Dame cathedralin Paris, the world knew three minutes. But this most recent disaster has divided the internet.**

When a fire tore through Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris1 earlier this year, donations poured in across the world at such a rapid rate, more than one billion dollars was raised in just two days.

The world was made aware of the catastrophe within three minutes of the first flame.

In fact, the amount of money pledged by celebrities, billionaires and other generous donors far surpassed the amount needed to make the dramatic structural repairs.

The wave of goodwill, however, has generated a new wave of backlash on social media more than four months after the tragedy.

Why? Well, another horrific fire is burning in one of the world's most crucial natural landmarks —but it's taken three weeks for the world to really take note. In fact, it's only just started to get some attention, despite more than one-and-a-half soccer fields being destroyed every minute.

For three whole weeks, the single largest tropical rainforest in the world is being destroyed.

The Amazon is often referred to as the planet's lungs, producing 20 per cent of the oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere. As the largest rainforest on the planet, it is considered a vital instrument in slowing global warming.

With such a catastrophe taking place for weeks on end, social media users have been quick to question why the tragedy at Notre-Dame surpassed what's currently unfolding in the Amazon.

Images of fires purportedly devouring sections of the world's largest rainforest have goneviral onTwitter, prompting the backlash and trending hashtag#PrayforAmazonas, which has now received more than 249,000 tweets. '

'I would rather see Notre-Dame totally destroyed and see the Amazon forest protected forever,' one person said.

'There's no point in preserving history if we're just gonna watch the future of our planet slip away.'

Another added that when Notre-Dame burned, the world stopped.

‘Billionaires emptied their pockets to help rebuild,’ he said. ‘Meanwhile the Amazon has been burning for 3 weeks. The difference is, we don’t get to build a new earth. When it’s gone, it’s gone.’

While it was not possible to measure the size of the area affected by fires, thick smoke in recent days has blanketed several cities, including São Paulo2, and caused a commercial flight to be diverted.

Official figures show nearly 73,000 forest fires were recorded in Brazil in the first eight months of the year — the highest number for any year since 2013.

Most were in the Amazon.

Amazon Rainforest Fast Facts
• TheAmazonrainforestcoversover5.5million square kilometers.
That’s equivalent to Western Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory3 combined.
• It is known as the lungs of the Earth’ because more than 20 percent of the world’s oxygen is produced by the Amazon.
• Thereareabout16,000treespeciesand390billionindividual trees in the Amazon.
• The Amazon is thought to have 2.5 million species of insects. More than half the species in the rainforest are thought to live in the canopy.
• 400–500 indigenous tribes call the Amazon rainforest home. It’s believed about 50 of these tribes have never had contact with the outside world.
• Cattle farming accounts for roughly 70 per cent of deforestation in the Amazon.
• Since 1970, 800,000 square kilometres of the rainforest have been destroyed by deforestation — equivalent to an area the size of New South Wales

**Model Answer**

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to you with deep concern about the recent events unfolding in the Amazon rainforest, which has been burning for three weeks now. As the largest rainforest on the planet and often referred to as the "lungs of the Earth," the Amazon plays a crucial role in producing 20 percent of the oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere and slowing global warming.

What troubles me the most is the stark contrast in the global response between the fire at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris earlier this year and the ongoing catastrophe in the Amazon. When Notre Dame burned, the world was made aware of the tragedy within three minutes, and donations poured in from across the world, raising over one billion dollars in just two days. However, the destruction of the Amazon, with more than one-and-a-half soccer fields being destroyed every minute, has taken three weeks to gain significant attention.

It is disheartening to witness such a delay in response and a lack of urgency in addressing the devastating fires in the Amazon. Social media users have been quick to question why the tragedy at Notre Dame surpassed what's currently unfolding in the Amazon. While billionaires emptied their pockets to help rebuild Notre Dame, the Amazon, which is considered a vital instrument in combating global warming, continues to burn with alarming consequences for our planet's future.

As a global leader, I urge you to use your influence and take immediate action to address the ongoing crisis in the Amazon rainforest. It is crucial to prioritize the protection of this natural landmark and its invaluable contribution to our planet's health and well-being. We cannot afford to watch the future of our planet slip away while preserving history. It's time to prioritize the preservation of our planet's future.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

The **success criteria** for the task of writing a letter in response to the article about the Amazon rainforest fire and the comparison with the response to the fire at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris could include:

**Addressing the main issue**: The letter should clearly and effectively address the discrepancy in global response between the two events, highlighting the urgency of the situation in the Amazon rainforest and the need for immediate action.

**Conveying concern and urgency**: The letter should convey genuine concern about the ongoing destruction of the Amazon rainforest and emphasize the urgent need for action to protect this vital natural landmark.

**Providing relevant facts and information**: The letter should include accurate and relevant facts and information about the Amazon rainforest, its significance as the "lungs of the Earth," and the current state of deforestation and fires in the region.

**Expressing a clear opinion**: The letter should express a clear opinion on the importance of prioritizing the protection of the Amazon rainforest and the need for swift action to address the ongoing crisis.

**Making a call to action**: The letter should include a call to action for the recipient, such as a request for immediate action, advocacy for policy changes, or a call for increased awareness and attention to the issue.

**Professional tone and language**: The letter should be written in a professional tone and language, conveying the message effectively and respectfully.

**Coherent and well-organized structure:** The letter should have a coherent and well-organized structure, with a clear introduction, body paragraphs presenting relevant information and arguments, and a concise conclusion summarizing the key points and call to action.

**Grammar and language accuracy**: The letter should demonstrate proficiency in grammar, spelling, and language usage, to ensure clear and effective communication.

**Overall impact**: The letter should have a strong and persuasive impact on the reader, effectively conveying the urgency of the issue and advocating for action to address the ongoing crisis in the Amazon rainforest.

**October/November 2021**

## 6. Advertisement – published in a magazine for young people

Write the text of an advertisement for the new Oaxis semi-smartwatch, which will be published in a magazine for young people. Use 150–200 words.

**PAF TR**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the advertisement is to promote the new Oaxis semi-smartwatch and encourage young people to purchase it. The advertisement aims to highlight the features and benefits of the watch, and create a desire among the target audience to upgrade their wristwear.

**Audience:** The target audience for this advertisement is young people who are interested in technology, health and fitness, outdoor activities, and fashion. They are likely tech-savvy, adventurous, and fashion-conscious individuals who are looking for a stylish and functional smartwatch to complement their lifestyle.

**Format:** The advertisement will be published in a magazine for young people and, therefore should be written concisely and engagingly. It should be visually appealing, with attention-grabbing headlines, and may include images or graphics to showcase the design and features of the Oaxis semi-smartwatch.

**Tone:** The tone of the advertisement should be upbeat, enthusiastic, and relatable to the target audience. It should convey a sense of excitement and adventure while also highlighting the practical benefits of the smartwatch for health, fitness, and communication.

**Register:** The register of the advertisement should be informal and conversational, using language that is appropriate for young people. It should be catchy yet clear and concise, avoiding jargon or technical terms that may be unfamiliar to the target audience. The advertisement should also evoke a sense of modernity and trendiness to appeal to the youthful and fashionable sensibilities of the audience.

Read the following text, which is a review of a new watch, from the New Atlas Science and Technology website. You work in the advertising department at Oaxis.

This very tidy-looking semi-smartwatch is designed to roll the functionality of a fitness tracker in with a stylish analog dress watch you can wear anywhere. It's a great concept– let's see how this Singaporean company has executed it!

First things first: the chief purpose of a watch these days is to look good, and I think Oaxis has done a terrific job with this minimalist design. In the few days I've been wearing it around I've

had more than a few compliments, it's a nicely neutral design that works with a suit or casual wear. It is by a factor of 10 the nicest looking watch I've ever worn.

Having said that, maybe it's a bit thick, and as soon as you hit the side button (and it is just a button, don't go trying to adjust the time with it) and the tiny 0.42-inch OLED1 screen comes on, it does get a touch of the old digital calculator about it; the rectangular screen sits inside a circular window looking a bit awkward.

It ships with a small wireless charging dock that fully tops up the watch in an hour and a half, which will last you around 30 days of wear– a refreshing change from most smartwatches.

It syncs to my Google Pixel 3 XL Android phone quickly and easily, with no fuss, and the Oaxis Timepiece app lets you quickly synchronize the time with whatever your phone's saying. Here too, you can decide how 'smart' you want the Oaxis to be. Do you want it to vibrate and tell you who's calling? Read you text messages and emails? Calendar reminders? Social media alerts? After a couple of days running all of these, I ended up deciding the answer was: no. The tiny screen on this thing means that sometimes single words can't completely fit on a page. Scrolling through to read anything of substance is a pain. I'm out.

The app itself isn't particularly impressive, it's basic at best. The back button doesn't work, which is odd, and there's no obvious way to force a data sync.

On to the fitness tracking side of things, then. The Oaxis carries a built-in pedometer, which works well if you're into that sort of thing. It does rudimentary sleep analysis if you leave it on overnight, which is nice. And it gives you estimated calories and distance walked, which are fine, but to this point, it's only replicating things your phone can do anyway.

The big ticket item here is the heart rate monitor– a handy thing to have if you want to keep track of your cardio progression during exercise and at rest.

Now, perhaps my expectations here were out of line, but to me, a heart rate tracker should constantly keep an eye on your heart rate, take measurements every few seconds, display a rolling readout if you put it in the right display mode, and output a nice graph that you can check out at the end of the day.

The Oaxis, at least in its current form, does not do this. It takes measurements– but only when you directly request them. So if I want to know what my heart rate is doing when I'm cycling, I need to take a hand off the bars, beep my way through to the heart rate screen (which is hard to do, because the OLED screen doesn't show up very brightly in the sun), hold the button down for 3 seconds, wait about 10 or 15 seconds for it to take a reading, and then squint at the screen for a reading.

These individual readings are synchronized with the Timepiece app, where they're presented to you in the form of daily tables: here's the time you asked for a reading, and here's the reading.

Honestly, I don’t find this useful at all during exercise. As a way of tracking your resting heart rate, I guess it’s fine.

The Oaxis is selling at US$89 for the 38mm model, and US$99 for the 41mm, which is the size we’re reviewing. It comes in black, silver or gold, with black or white faces, and a variety of straps.

At those kinds of prices, even though the Timepiece isn’t what we were hoping for in a heart rate monitor, it’s still a nice watch at a good price with the potential to improve significantly in software upgrades.

Notes: 1OLED: a type of light

**Model Answer**

The Perfect Blend of Style and Functionality!

Introducing the Oaxis Semi-Smartwatch - the Ultimate Fashion Statement for Tech-Savvy Youth!

Looking for a watch that does more than just tell time? Want to stay stylish and trendy while staying connected? Look no further! The Oaxis Semi-Smartwatch is here to revolutionize your wristwear game!

Sleek Design that Turns Heads!

With its minimalist and modern design, the Oaxis Semi-Smartwatch is the epitome of style. Whether you're dressing up for a night out or keeping it casual during the day, this watch complements any outfit. Prepare for compliments and envy from your friends!

Your Personal Fitness Tracker!

Track your steps, monitor your heart rate, analyze your sleep patterns, and more! The Oaxis Semi-Smartwatch is your ultimate fitness companion, helping you stay on top of your health goals. Get real-time data and insights to optimize your workouts and lead a healthier lifestyle.

Smart Features, Your Way!

Connect seamlessly to your smartphone, receive call and message notifications, and stay up-to-date with your social media alerts from your wrist! With the Oaxis Timepiece app, you can customize your watch settings and choose how "smart" you want it to be.

Great Value for Your Money!

At just US$89 for the 38mm model and US$99 for the 41mm model, the Oaxis Semi-Smartwatch offers unbeatable value for its features and style. Don't break the bank for a smartwatch - get the Oaxis Semi-Smartwatch and upgrade your wrist game without compromising your budget!

**Success criteria** for writing an advertisement for the Oaxis semi-smartwatch, based on the given task, could include:

**Engaging Headline**: The advertisement should have an attention-grabbing headline that piques the interest of young readers and encourages them to read further.

**Key Features Highlight**: The advertisement should highlight the key features of the Oaxis semi-smartwatch, such as its stylish design, smart functionality, and innovative technology, clearly and compellingly.

**Benefits for Young People**: The advertisement should emphasize how the Oaxis semi-smartwatch caters to the needs and preferences of young people, such as helping them stay connected, track their fitness, and express their personal style.

**Positive Tone and Language**: The advertisement should use a positive and enthusiastic tone with appropriate language that resonates with the target audience of young people, making them excited about the product.

**Brand Messaging**: The advertisement should convey the brand messaging of Oaxis, such as its commitment to innovation, quality, and user satisfaction, consistently and compellingly.

**Magazine Style and Format**: The advertisement should be designed to align with the style and format of a magazine for young people, including relevant visuals, fonts, and layout that appeal to the target audience.

**Clear Call-to-Action**: The advertisement should include a clear call-to-action that prompts young readers to take action, such as visiting the Oaxis website, making a purchase, or following the brand on social media.

**Word Count**: The advertisement should fall within the specified word count range of 150-200 words, to ensure it is concise and to the point.

**October/November 2021**

## 7. Podcast

**You are a doctor who has used Epic. Write the text of a podcast for other doctors, promoting the benefits of the new software. Use 150–200 words.**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose:** To promote the benefits of Epic, a medical software, to other doctors.

**Audience**: Other doctors who may be interested in learning about the advantages of using Epic in their medical practice.

**Format:** A podcast, likely in an informative and persuasive style, with a spoken narrative promoting the benefits of Epic.

**Tone:** Positive, enthusiastic, and persuasive, aiming to highlight the advantages and features of Epic.

**Register**: Professional, using medical terminology and language familiar to the target audience of doctors. The tone and language should be authoritative and informative while also being engaging and appealing to the audience.

Read the following text, which is an extract from a magazine article about Epic, a new software package for healthcare professionals.

### Why Doctors Hate Their Computers

*Digitization promises to make medical care easier and more efficient. But are screens coming between doctors and patients?*

On a sunny afternoon in May, 2015, I joined a dozen other surgeons at a downtown Boston office building to begin sixteen hours of mandatory computer training. We sat in three rows, each of us parked behind a desktop computer. In one month, our daily routines would come to depend upon mastery of Epic, the new medical software system on the screens in front of us. The upgrade from our home-built software would cost the hospital system where we worked, Partners HealthCare, a staggering $1.6 billion, but it aimed to keep us technologically up to date.

***

The surgeons at the training session ranged in age from thirty to seventy, I estimated — about sixty per cent male, and one hundred per cent irritated at having to be there instead of seeing patients. Our trainer looked younger than any of us, maybe a few years out of college, with an early-Justin Bieber wave cut, a blue button-down shirt, and chinos. Gazing out at his sullen audience, he seemed unperturbed. I learned during the next few sessions that each instructor had developed his or her own way of dealing with the hostile rabble. One was encouraging and parental, another unsmiling and efficient. Justin Bieber took the driving instructor's approach: You don't want to be here; I don't want to be here; let's just make the best of it.

I did fine with the initial exercises, like looking up patients' names and emergency contacts. When it came to viewing test results, though, things got complicated. There was a column of thirteen tabs on the left side of my screen, crowded with nearly identical terms: 'chart review', 'results review', 'review flowsheet'.We hadn't even started learning how to enter information, and the fields revealed by each tab came with their own tools and nuances.

But I wasn't worried. I'd spent my life absorbing changes in computer technology, and I knew that if I pushed through the learning curve I'd eventually be doing some pretty cool things. In 1978, when I was an eighth grader in Ohio, I built my own four-kilobyte computer from a mail-order kit, learned to program in BASIC, and was soon playing the arcade game Pong on our black-and-white television set. The next year, I got an Apple II computer and eventually became the first kid in my school to turn in a computer-printed essay (and, shortly thereafter, the first to ask for an extension 'because the computer ate my homework'). As my Epic training began, I expected my patience to be rewarded in the same way.

My hospital had, over the years, computerized many records and processes, but the new system would give us one platform for doing almost everything health professionals needed—recording and communicating our medical observations, sending prescriptions to a patient's pharmacy, ordering tests and scans, viewing results, scheduling surgery, sending insurance bills. With Epic, paper lab-order slips, vital-signs charts, and hospital-ward records would disappear. We'd be greener, faster, better.

But three years later I've come to feel that a system that promised to increase my mastery over my work has, instead, increased my work's mastery over me. I'm not the only one. A 2016 study found that physicians spent about two hours doing computer work for every hour spent face to face with a patient — whatever the brand of medical software. In the examination room, physicians devoted half of their patient time facing the screen to do electronic tasks. And these tasks were spilling over after hours. The University of Wisconsin found that the average workday for its family physicians had grown to eleven and a half hours. The result has been epidemic levels of burnout among clinicians.

Something's gone terribly wrong. Doctors are among the most technology-avid people in society; computerization has simplified tasks in many industries. Yet somehow we've reached a point where people in the medical profession actively, viscerally, volubly hate their computers.

**Model Answer**

Hello fellow doctors,

Are you tired of drowning in paperwork and spending endless hours on administrative tasks? Well, I have some exciting news for you! Introducing Epic, the new medical software that is revolutionizing the way we practice medicine.

With Epic, you can finally say goodbye to the hassle of paper records and hello to a streamlined, efficient system that puts you back in control of your time. Imagine accessing patient records, reviewing test results, sending prescriptions, scheduling surgeries, and even sending insurance bills, all in one place! No more shuffling through stacks of paper or navigating confusing tabs on your screen. Epic simplifies your workflow and lets you focus on what you do best - providing quality patient care.

As a fellow doctor who has used Epic, I can attest to its incredible benefits to my practice. I am no longer chained to my computer, but rather empowered by it. Epic has allowed me to be more productive, spend more time with my patients, and even reduce the amount of time I spend working after hours.

So, say goodbye to burnout and frustration, and join the revolution with Epic. Embrace the power of technology to enhance your practice and improve patient care. Trust me, you won't regret it!

This is Dr. [Your Name] signing off, urging you to experience the transformation that Epic can bring to your medical practice. Don't wait, join us in the future of healthcare today!

The **success criteria** for podcast writing may include:

**Clear and coherent structure**: The podcast should have a well-organized structure with a logical flow of ideas, including an introduction, body, and conclusion.

**Engaging and compelling content**: The podcast should be informative, interesting, and engaging to the target audience, keeping their attention throughout the episode.

**Concise and effective communication**: The podcast should convey Epic's key messages and benefits in a concise and effective manner, using appropriate language and tone for the intended audience.

**Accurate and relevant information:** The podcast should provide accurate and up-to-date information about Epic, including its features, benefits, and potential impact on medical practice.

**Use of persuasive techniques:** The podcast should use persuasive techniques, such as anecdotes, examples, and testimonials, to effectively persuade the audience of the benefits of Epic.

**Action-oriented conclusion**: The podcast should conclude with a strong call to action, motivating the listeners to take steps to explore Epic further or consider implementing it in their own practice.

May/June 2021

8. **News report writing for a sports section of the newspaper.**

**You are a journalist at the Olympic 100 metres final which Usain Bolt describes in the extract. Write your report of the race for the sports section of your newspaper. Use 150–200 words**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose**: The purpose of the report is to inform and entertain readers about the 100 meters race in which Usain Bolt won his first Olympic gold medal. The report should provide a detailed and engaging account of the race, capturing the excitement and drama of the event.

**Audience:** The audience of the report is the sports section readers of the newspaper, who are likely to have an interest in sports, particularly Olympic events. The report should be written to appeal to sports enthusiasts, providing them with relevant and interesting information about the race.

**Format**: The format of the report is that of a news article for the sports section of a newspaper. It should have a clear headline, an engaging lead paragraph, and follow the structure of a news article, including details of the event, quotes, and relevant information about the race.

**Tone:** The tone of the report should be professional, informative, and engaging. It should capture the excitement of the race while maintaining a journalistic tone, providing factual information and avoiding overly casual or informal language.

**Register:** The register of the report should be appropriate for a sports news article, using standard English language with appropriate sports-related terminology and jargon. The writing should be clear, concise, and tailored to the target audience's level.

By considering and incorporating the PAFTR, the journalist can effectively write a report of the 100 meters race in which Usain Bolt won his first Olympic gold medal, delivering an engaging and informative article for the sports section of the newspaper.

Read the following text, which is an extract from the autobiography of Usain Bolt, the famous sprinter. In the extract he describes the 100 metres race in which he won his first Olympic gold medal.

**Bang!**

The gun went.

Man, a lot can go through a sprinter's mind over 100 metres, and I've talked garbage to myself in every race I've ever run in. That might sound crazy to a lot of people because

the metres flash by in just over nine and a half seconds, ten on a really bad day for me, but in that time I can think about a hell of a lot of stuff: like my start as I burst out of the line, especially if I've left the blocks too late. I think about who's doing what ahead of me in the lanes, or whether someone behind is doing something stupid, like trying to beat me. Seriously, I talk a lot of trash in my head when I'm tearing down the track at top speed.

**Pow!**

I burst from the blocks, but Richard Thompson, the Trinidad and Tobago sprinter, was in the lane next to me and he got a start like nobody else in the history of the Olympics.

Wow! How did he do that?! Now I can't see where I am in the race, because he's blocking my view of Asafa1 on the other side.

I kept my eye on him all the way, extending my legs out of the drive phase. I made one, two, three steps and then I stumbled – I made a bad step and rocked to my right – but I recovered quickly and maintained my cool. I'd been through races before where I'd suffered a bad start, or a shaky first 20 metres, so I didn't freak.

Like Stockholm, yo. Remember Stockholm. Do not panic. Get through your drive phase and chill. Chill, chill, chill. Thompson hasn't pulled away. He's right there in front of you

I glanced across the line.

He's the only dude leading the pack.

And then there was me.

Keep chilling.

I could feel my momentum building, my longer stride taking me past Thompson, and once I'd cleared him, I could see the rest of the line. I did a quick check – I was ahead, but there was no Asafa.

Where the hell is Asafa?

Everybody else was there, bunched in. Thompson,Walter Dix (USA), Churandy Martina (Netherlands Antilles), Michael Frater (Jamaica), Marc Burns (Trinidad and Tobago) and the other American runner, Darvis Patton, but still no Asafa. That seemed stupid to me, he was supposed to be there.

This is kinda weird. He should be around

At 75, 80 metres I peeped again. I say peeped, but I actually looked back over my shoulder. I needed to know where he was.

Where are you, bredder2? You're the man that's supposed to be doing well here now Tyson's not playing. What are you doing? Do I need to run harder? Can I chill?

Then it dawned on me.

Oh man, oh man  I'm gonna win this race!

Talk about losing it. I went totally wild even though I was still ten metres from the line. I threw my hands up in the air and acted all mad. I pounded my chest because I knew that nobody was going to catch me. It was done, I was the Olympic champ and all the work I'd suffered with Coach had paid off – all those laps of the track had taken me to the tape in first place.

Notes:
1Asafa: Asafa Powell, Bolt's Jamaican teammate and former 100 metres world record holder
2bredder: a Jamaican dialect word meaning brother

**Model Answer**

**Usain Bolt Makes History with Olympic Gold in 100m Sprint**

In an electrifying race at the Olympic 100m final, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt claimed his first Olympic gold medal with an incredible display of speed and determination. From the moment the gun went off, Bolt showed his trademark explosive start, but he faced tough competition from Richard Thompson of Trinidad and Tobago who had a lightning-fast start in the lane next to him. Bolt's initial view of the race was obstructed by Thompson, but he quickly regained his focus and pushed through the drive phase with extended strides.

As Bolt cleared Thompson, he looked for his teammate Asafa Powell, who was expected to be a top contender in the race. However, Powell was nowhere to be seen among the pack of runners. Bolt's mind raced as he peeped over his shoulder to locate Powell, realizing that he had a chance to win the race. With 75-80 meters to go, Bolt's excitement and confidence grew, and he knew he had it in the bag. He threw his hands up in the air and celebrated before crossing the finish line, becoming the Olympic champion.

Reflecting on his victory, Bolt mentioned the hard work he had put in with his coach and how it had paid off. Bolt's win was historic, as he became the first Jamaican sprinter to win Olympic gold in the 100m race. The race showcased Bolt's incredible speed, mental toughness, and competitive spirit, solidifying his status as one of the greatest sprinters of all time. With this remarkable victory, Bolt has set the stage for an unforgettable Olympic campaign, leaving the world in awe of his talent and skill on the track.

The **success criteria** for writing a news report in the sports section would include:

**Capturing the excitement and drama of the event**: The report should convey the thrilling moments of the race, describing the intense competition among the athletes and the emotions involved.

**Providing detailed and relevant information**: The report should include specific details about the race, such as the names of the athletes, their performance, and any notable incidents that occurred during the race.

**Using professional and informative tone**: The tone of the report should be journalistic, maintaining a professional and informative style of writing. Avoiding overly casual or informal language is important to maintain the credibility of the news report.

**Following the structure of a news article**: The report should have a clear headline, an engaging lead paragraph, and follow the structure of a typical news article, including an introduction, body, and conclusion. The information should be organized in a logical and coherent manner.

**Using appropriate sports-related terminology and jargon**: The report should use standard English language with appropriate sports-related terminology and jargon that is familiar to the target audience of sports enthusiasts. This helps to add authenticity and credibility to the report.

By meeting these success criteria, the news report would effectively inform and entertain readers, providing them with an engaging and informative account of the 100 meters race and Usain Bolt's historic win.

## 9. Blog Post

**You are a blogger for your university student website and you attended Hillary R. Clinton's speech. Write a blog post for your fellow students, giving your personal account of the event. Use 150–200 words.**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose** - To share my personal experience and insights on Hillary R. Clinton's speech at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, highlighting its significance and relevance for fellow students.

**Audience** - Fellow students of a university student website, who are interested in current events, women's rights, and social justice issues.

**Format** - Blog post, written in a conversational and engaging style to connect with the target audience and provide a relatable perspective.

**Tone** - Informative, personal, and inspirational, aiming to convey my impressions and emotions about the speech while also presenting factual information and critical analysis.

**Register** - Formal, maintaining a respectful and professional tone appropriate for a university student website and discussing a significant international event.

Read the following text, which is an extract from a speech given in 1994 by Hillary R. Clinton at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. At the time, as the wife of President Bill Clinton, she was First Lady of the United States of America.

I would like to thank the Secretary General of the United Nations for inviting me to be part of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women.Thisis truly a celebration– a celebration of the contributions women make in every aspect of life: in the home, onthe job, in their communities, as mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, learners, workers, citizens and leaders.

It is also a coming together, much the way women come together every day in every country.

We come together in fields and in factories. In village markets and supermarkets. In living rooms and boardrooms.

Whether it is while playing with our children in the park or washing clothes in a river, or taking a break at the office water cooler, we come together and talk about our aspirations and concerns. And time and again, our talk turns to our children and our families.

However different we may be, there is far more that unites us than divides us. We share a common future. And we are here to find common ground so that we may help bring new dignity and respect to women and girls all over the world– and in so doing, bring new strength and stability to families as well.

By gathering in Beijing, we are focusing world attention on issues that matter most in the lives of women and their families: access to education, health care, jobs, and credit, the chance to enjoy basic legal and human rights and participate fully in the political life of their countries.

There are some who question the reason for this conference. Let them listen to the voices of women in their homes, neighbourhoods, and workplaces.

There are some who wonder whether the lives of women and girls matter to economic and political progress around the globe Let them look at the women gathered here and at Huairou the homemakers, nurses, teachers, lawyers, policymakers, and women who run their own businesses.

It is conferences like this that compel governments and peoples everywhere to listen, look and face the world's most pressing problems.

Wasn't it after the women's conference in Nairobi ten years ago that the world focused for the first time on the crisis of domestic violence?
Earlier today, I participated in a World Health Organization forum, where government officials, NGOs, and individual citizens are working on ways to address the health problems of women and girls.

Tomorrow, I will attend a gathering of the United Nations Development Fund for Women. There, the discussion will focus on local– and highly successful– programs that give hard-working women access to credit so they can improve their own lives and the lives of their families.

What we are learning around the world is that, if women are healthy and educated, their families will flourish. If women are free from violence, their families will flourish. If women have a chance to work and earn as full and equal partners in society, their families will flourish. And when families flourish, communities and nations will flourish. That is why every woman, every man, every child, every family, and every nation on our planet has a stake in the discussion that takes place here.

*** Let this conference be our– and the world's– call to action.

And let us heed the call so that we can create a world in which every woman is treated with respect and dignity, every boy and girl is loved and cared for equally, and every family has the hope of a strong and stable future.

Thank you very much.

**Model Answer**

Blog Post: My Experience at Hillary R. Clinton's Speech at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women

As a blogger for my university student website, I attended Hillary R. Clinton's speech at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in 1994. It was truly a celebration of women's contributions to society as mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, learners, workers, citizens, and leaders. Clinton highlighted how women come together every day in various settings, such as fields, factories, markets, living rooms, and boardrooms.

She emphasized the importance of finding common ground to bring dignity and respect to women and girls worldwide, which in turn would bring strength and stability to families. Issues like access to education, healthcare, jobs, and human rights were discussed, and the need for progress in the lives of women and girls was emphasized.

Clinton also pointed out that conferences like this compel governments and peoples to face the world's most pressing problems, and highlighted the role of women in addressing health problems and access to credit. She reiterated the need for a world where every woman is treated with respect, every child is loved equally, and every family has a hopeful future.

In conclusion, Hillary R. Clinton's speech at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women was a call to action to create a more equitable world for women and girls. It was an inspiring event that emphasized the importance of empowering women and promoting gender equality for the betterment of families, communities, and nations.

**Success criteria**

**Informal Tone**: The blog post uses a conversational and informal tone, addressing the reader directly and using simple language to convey the message.

**Headings and Subheadings**: The blog post has a clear title and subheadings to break up the content into sections, making it easy for readers to scan and find relevant information.

**Short Paragraphs**: The paragraphs in the blog post are kept short and focused, with no more than a few sentences each, making it easy for readers to digest the information.

**Bullet Points and Lists**: The blog post includes bullet points to highlight key points and make the content more visually appealing and easier to understand.

**Engaging Introduction**: The blog post starts with an engaging introduction that hooks the reader with a surprising statement and sets the tone for the rest of the content.

**Personal Perspective**: The blog post incorporates a personal perspective by using first-person pronouns and sharing personal experiences related to the topic.

**Call to Action**: The blog post does not include a specific call to action, but you could consider adding one at the end, encouraging readers to leave comments or share the post.

May/June 2021

## 10. Speech

**Your teacher has asked you to write the opening speech for a class debate on the subject of organic food. Write your speech, outlining the pros and cons of organic food. Use 150–200 words.**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the speech is to provide an informative and balanced overview of the pros and cons of organic food to engage the audience and set the tone for a class debate.

**Audience**: The audience is a class of students who may have different levels of knowledge and opinions on organic food. The speech should be tailored to inform and engage students with varying perspectives and interests.

**Format**: The speech should have an introduction, body, and conclusion. It should be organized and coherent, with clear transitions between points. It should include evidence-based information and examples to support the pros and cons of organic food.

**Tone:** The tone should be objective and unbiased, providing a balanced view of the pros and cons of organic food. It should be respectful and engaging, encouraging students to think critically and participate in the class debate.

**Register**: The speech should be written in a formal register appropriate for a class debate, using appropriate language and tone for an academic setting. It should avoid overly technical language and jargon, making the information accessible and engaging for the audience.

Read the following text, which is a blog post from the Psychology Today website.

**Organic food isn't all its' cracked up to be**

Organic food isn't all it's cracked up to be Here's food for thought: Taste happens in your head, not your mouth. Color, for instance, is a strong influence on how we perceive flavor. Purple grapes don't look quite right when served on a blue plate. Similar color contrast impressions operate at multiple levels both psychologically and in the brain. It may be that the term 'blue plate special' becamepopularduringthe1930sDepressionwhencooksnoticedthatcustomerswere satisfied with smaller portions when meals were served on a blue plate. Shape affects gustatory judgments, too. An angular plate emphasizes the sharpness of a dish. Weight also matters: the more heft a bowl has the more saturated you'll feel no matter how much or little you eat.

Labeling is powerful: In blind tastings people judge wine as tasting superior when told it costs a lot despite being exactly the same drink as the competitors they taste. Studies repeatedly show

that consumers can't detect any difference between organic-labeled and conventionally grown vegetables even when 30% of those tested thought that organic vegetables had to taste better. Expectations and belief strongly shade how food tastes, even when it is served blind or in black glassware. A lack of visual cues can make it impossible to tell one flavor from another. The 8% of men who are red–green color blind, for example, can't tell the difference between a rare steak and one well done. One would think that a tough texture gave the overcooked steak away, but visual cues, or their absence, outweigh other signals.

Now imagine fields of old-fashioned produce. Chickens clucking in the yard. A nice image, but not necessarily reality. As organic products have gained in popularity the incentive to industrialize has influenced producers. That's perfectly legal because 'organic' by definition means only not sprayed with synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. That leaves more than 20 chemicals approved for organic farming that may not be any less risky or more sustainable than synthetic ones.

OneUSDA1reportshowedthat43%of571sampleslabeledorganiccontainedprohibited pesticide residues. Some were mislabeled regular produce. Others were downwind from prohibited pesticides used in conventional fields nearby. Major brands often grow their organic crops next to conventional ones, so it's no surprise they're contaminated.

Labels have become a problem: Organic isn't much about food at all. It's now an image and testament to a lifestyle, a virtuous story about the person whose kitchen it fills. People choose it because they value romanticized notions of health, quality, the natural world. Marketers know that we're swayed by confirmation bias so they can sell us products that don't live up to an imagined ideal. Confirmation bias is basically believing evidence that supports what you already believe while rejecting whatever doesn't fit. '

Organic' once did mean more traditional farming practices and less-processed raw ingredients. Our brains still hang on to that ideal even in the face of negative evidence. Attached to beliefs and symbols of a principled lifestyle, cognitive bias nudges us to reject contrary facts. Advertisers claim their organic cereal is healthier, and our critical thinking forgets that frosted cereals are nutritionally poor choices no matter which way you grow, grind, and bake them.

The smokiest mirror of the organic industrial complex may be that its system is based on trust. An investigation by the Wall Street Journal found that 47% of USDA certifying agents– people accredited by USDA and trusted to inspect and certify organic farms and suppliers– failed to uphold basic Agriculture Department standards at least once. Caveat emptor2: claims of health benefits and 'natural' ingredients can be meaningless when we take producers at their literal word.

There is more to labels than meets the eye, and the psychology of food marketing has yet to change reality. Swedish researchers concluded that 'choosing a lifestyle based upon an organic diet constitutes a return to the natural world on a philosophical level, whereas on a psychological level it connects one to aspects such as identity, values, and well-being'. Organic

chickens may be ‘cage-free’ and have ‘outdoor access,’ but that doesn’t mean they’re not still living in crowded factory-conditions-plus-window. You have to look beyond the label. As for moral superiority, that can’t fit in a shopping cart anyway.

**Model Answer 1**

Dear classmates,

Today, we are here to discuss the topic of organic food, a subject that has gained increasing attention in recent years. Organic food refers to products grown or produced without synthetic pesticides, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), or chemical fertilizers.

Let's start by examining the pros of organic food. One significant advantage is that organic farming practices promote environmental sustainability. By avoiding the use of harmful chemicals, organic farming can help reduce pollution, protect biodiversity, and improve soil health. Organic food is also often perceived as being healthier and more nutritious, as it is free from synthetic pesticides and GMOs.

On the other hand, there are some cons to consider as well. Organic food can be more expensive than conventionally produced food, making it less accessible to some consumers. The yield of organic crops can also be lower due to the absence of synthetic pesticides, which may result in higher prices. Additionally, some studies have shown that there is no significant difference in nutritional value between organic and conventionally grown food.

In conclusion, organic food has both pros and cons. It promotes environmental sustainability and may be perceived as healthier, but it can also be more expensive and may not have a significant nutritional advantage. As we engage in our class debate, let's consider these points and approach the topic with an open mind, considering diverse perspectives. Thank you.

**Model Answer 2**

Good [morning/afternoon], esteemed teachers and fellow classmates. Today, we are here to discuss the topic of organic food. While organic food has gained popularity in recent years, evaluating its pros and cons is important.

Let's start with the pros of organic food. Proponents argue that organic food is grown without synthetic fertilizers or pesticides, making it a healthier option for consumption. Organic farming practices also promote biodiversity and sustainability, which are important for protecting our environment. Additionally, some studies suggest that organic food may contain higher levels of certain nutrients and antioxidants.

However, it's also important to consider the cons of organic food. First, the perception of taste and quality of food can be influenced by various factors such as color, shape, and labeling, which may not necessarily correlate with the food's actual taste or nutritional value. Moreover,

organic farming still allows for certain approved chemicals, and studies have shown that organic produce can still contain prohibited pesticide residues. Furthermore, organic products can be more expensive than conventionally grown ones, making them less accessible to some consumers.

It's also crucial to note that organic food has become more of an image and lifestyle choice rather than solely being about the food itself. Marketers may use labels and claims of health benefits to sell organic products. Consumers may have confirmation bias, believing in the idealized notion of organic food without critically evaluating the evidence.

In conclusion, while organic food has its perceived benefits such as promoting sustainable farming practices, it's important to consider the broader context and critically evaluate the evidence.

As we proceed with our debate, let's keep an open mind and consider all perspectives on this topic.

Thank you

## 11. Travel Writing Review

**Imagine you have gone 'truffle-hunting' and decide to write a review of the experience for a travel website. Basing your writing closely on the material of the original text, and using 120 to 150 of your own words**

**PAF TR**

**Purpose**: The purpose of the review is to provide an informative and engaging account of the truffle-hunting experience, sharing details about the process, the location, and the overall enjoyment of the activity.

**Audience:** The audience for the review is likely travelers or food enthusiasts who are interested in truffle-hunting experiences and looking for information and recommendations for such activities.

**Format:** The review could be written in a narrative or descriptive format, with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion. It could include descriptions of the truffle-hunting process, the location, the guides, and any other relevant details.

**Tone:** The tone of the review should be informative, engaging, and enthusiastic, reflecting the writer's personal experience and opinions about the truffle-hunting activity. It should be honest and objective, providing a balanced perspective on the overall experience.

**Register**: The register of the review should be semi-formal or informal, using a conversational style of writing that is accessible to a wide range of readers. The use of descriptive language and vivid imagery can help create an engaging and immersive experience for the reader.

The following text is taken from a blog written for a travel company that specialises in trips to Italy. In it, the writer explains some of the best places to go 'truffle-hunting.'

**The best places to go truffle-hunting in Italy**

The rolling hills of Italy's lush landscape are famous for their bountiful produce. Fields of gnarled, silvery-leaved trees burst with olives. Vines carpet hillsides to the horizon. And luscious sweet lemons drip juicily from lemon groves. But the Mediterranean sun does not ripen Italy's most prized crop. It grows slowly, in the dark, under the ground and has to be hunted by dogs. Let's go truffle-hunting in Italy!

**What are truffles?**

Truffles are the fruits of a subterranean fungus that typically grows around the roots of certain trees including oak, beech, birch, hazel, pine and poplar. They look a bit like a knobbly, rough-skinned potato and normally grow a few inches underground. But as they grow under, not on, trees, truffles are difficult to find and therefore very expensive. I

t's fortunate then that truffles have a uniquely strong smell that pigs and dogs can be trained to seek out. I

If you've ever visited Tuscany chances are you've tasted truffle dishes or come home with truffle cream or oil as a culinary souvenir. But if you want to know more about where these black diamonds come from you need to take a trip out into the heart of truffle country.

San Miniato, halfway between Florence and Pisa, is a lovely little hilltop village that celebrates the white truffle harvest with three weekends of truffle markets every November. The aroma of truffles wafts through the streets as visitors taste, test and buy all manner of truffle goodies.

So if you love this wonderful delicacy, San Miniato is the perfect place to explore truffles in Tuscany. With a full day to explore, you arrive at San Miniato to meet the Savini family's trifulau truffle hunters, who will take you through some of the local truffle types before taking you out on your very own truffle hunt with the dogs! Lunch will obviously include this delicious delicacy and maybe even some of the truffles you've found yourselves. What a wonderful way to experience the bounty of Tuscany.

San Giovanni d'Asso, set in the heart of the southern Sienese landscape, is another focus for white truffle-hunters and truffle-lovers alike. The little hilltop town celebrates the fabulous fungus with its truffle festival in the second and third weeks of November each year, right at the height of the season and is tremendous fun for foodies. Stalls laden with piles of truffles and truffle-infused delights tempt visitors but you need to be quick as fresh truffles begin to lose their prized perfume within days of being harvested so get ready to tuck in!

Ultimately Italian truffles are some of the most prized and treasured in the world. Their scarcity, cultivation difficulties and short, localized seasons make them a culinary luxury. And their unique earthy flavor enriches dishes from pasta to cheeses to salami. It’s a delicacy for which gourmets and gastronomes will pay handsomely. So scouring the misty, autumnal countryside of Tuscany to go truffle hunting in Italy is an experience that will stay with you for a lifetime. Our travel experts are on standby to help you find these buried treasures and in the meantime make sure you leave us a comment with your favorite truffle recipes to whet our appetites! Buon apetito!

**Model Answer**

If you're a foodie with a taste for the finer things in life, then truffle-hunting in Italy is an experience not to be missed. Italy's rolling hills are known for their bountiful produce, from olives to lemons, but the elusive truffle takes center stage. These knobbly, rough-skinned potatoes of the fungus world grow slowly, hidden underground near the roots of certain trees. That's why truffle hunters rely on pigs and dogs to sniff out these black diamonds of the culinary world.

One of Italy's best places to go truffle-hunting is San Miniato, a charming hilltop village located halfway between Florence and Pisa. Here, the Savini family's trifulau truffle hunters will introduce you to local truffle varieties before taking you on your very own truffle hunt with their expertly trained dogs. The aroma of truffles fills the air as you explore the misty, autumnal countryside, and if you're lucky, you may even find some truffles yourself. Of course, no truffle-hunting experience is complete without indulging in a delicious truffle-infused lunch, featuring the very same truffles you've found.

Another hotspot for truffle-hunters and foodies alike is San Giovanni d'Asso, a picturesque hilltop town in the heart of the southern Sienese landscape. Here, the annual truffle festival held in November is a must-visit, with stalls piled high with fresh truffles and truffle-infused delights. But be quick, as truffles lose their prized perfume within days of being harvested.

Italian truffles are some of the most prized and treasured in the world, with their unique earthy flavor-enriching dishes from pasta to cheeses to salami. Their scarcity, cultivation difficulties, and short, localized seasons make them a true culinary luxury, and truffle-hunting in Italy is an experience that will leave a lasting impression. So why not embark on a truffle-hunting adventure in the misty countryside of Tuscany and uncover these buried treasures for yourself? Our travel experts are ready to assist you in planning your truffle-hunting escapade, and in the meantime, feel free to share your favourite truffle recipes to whet our appetites. Buon apetito!

**Success criteria**

**Stay true to the original text**: Ensure that the tone, style, and content of your writing closely match the material in the original text. Use similar language and phrasing to create a consistent and cohesive review.

**Include relevant information**: Provide details about the truffle-hunting experience in Italy, such as the locations, timing, and traditions associated with truffle hunting. Mention specific places, like San Miniato and San Giovanni d'Asso, that are known for truffle hunting and festivities.

**Highlight the uniqueness of truffle hunting**: Emphasize the distinctive aspects of truffle hunting, such as the subterranean growth of truffles, the use of trained dogs or pigs, and the difficulty of finding truffles. Discuss the aroma and flavor of truffles as a culinary luxury.

**Add personal touch**: Inject your own voice and perspective into the review, making it engaging and interesting for readers. Share your enthusiasm for truffle hunting and mention any personal experiences or recommendations.